CITY EDITION

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CALLES DEMANDS PUNISHMENT OF AMERICAN WHO SHOT MEXICAN

Excitement Continues High at Agua Prieta Over Incident at Boundary Monday When Musician Was Wounded.

STATEMENT OF FACTS SENT TO GEN. DAVIS

Rodriguez and Companion Testify Under Oath That They Were 100 Meters South of Border When Fired Upon.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

Douglas, Ariz., July 18.—Excitement over the shooting of Antonio Rodriguez, a Mexican musician, by Private R. Tucker, Eleventh infantry, while the Mexican was trying to cross the international boundary here, did not abate today in Agua Prieta. The case was the chief topic of conversation in Mexican circles during the day and officials on the other side of the border, from General P. Elias Calles, military commander of Sonora, and Adolfo de la Huerta, governor of the state, down to the lowliest policeman, are insistent in their demand that the sentry be punished. Rodriguez is still alive and has slight chance for recovery. The official investigation of the case was completed by Judge Gabriel Trujillo, today. A translation of the complete record of the hearing was sent General Davis commanding the troops in the Arizona district. The request that he take the circumstances brought out into consideration in making his inquiry into the affair is understood to have accompanied the document when it was delivered by Ives G. Lelevier, Mexican consul here.

Rodriguez and his companion, Enrique Pina, under oath, testified that they were not less than 100 metres inside when the first shot was fired at them. The judge says that he found Rodriguez 240 metres south of the border.

Evidence Transcribed.

General Calles' interest in the case is shown by the fact that his chief of staff, Colonel M. M. Mendoza, had the transcript of evidence made for General Davis and forwarded it to him under the official seal of the state. In conversation the Mexican authorities said that unless the sentry was punished, it was the intention of Governor de la Huerta and General Calles to make the case a matter of international moment by insisting that it be taken up diplomatically between Mexico City and Washington.

Private Tucker was not placed under arrest and from the statements of American army officers, it appears that he was merely following orders when he fired. American officers are understood to have declared that the shots were fired before the pair crossed the border.

Troops Ordered Back.

Excitement was caused on this side of the border today by the seemingly well authenticated report that Mexican troops moving southward had been ordered halted by General Calles and were moving in large numbers toward the border. Several hundred soldiers are reported to have arrived in Agua Prieta today from Cabullona and Fronteras.

American mining men here who have been planning to return to their properties in Sonora under General Calles' invitation and guarantee are watching the situation with concern, believing that it may have the effect of changing the attitude of Mexican officials into one of hostility.

It was reported here today that the United States intends to build a railroad southward from Columbus, N. M., to Colonia Dublan, in Chihuahua, a distance of 115 miles. Local employment agents are said to be looking for 500 Mexicans to be employed on this work. In well informed quarters it was learned that there is no present intention of building a railroad but that the road used by the truck trains, which has been much damaged by heavy rains, would be repaired and built up to railroad grade by the workmen.

CONFERENCE PLAN IS PROGRESSING FAVORABLY

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

Washington, July 18.—Eliseo Arredondo, Mexican ambassador-designate, called on Acting Secretary Polk at the state department today just before the latter went to the White House for the cabinet meeting. It was understood Mr. Arredondo had received instructions from his government approving a tentative plan for the settlement of differences with the United States by means of a joint international commission.

There are indications that Henry P. Fletcher, ambassador-designate to Mexico, will head the three American commissioners, if the plans is adopted. Mr. Fletcher was present at today's conference.

At the close of the conference, Mr. Polk said there was nothing to be announced further than that the conferences were "progressing favorably" and he intimated no announcement might be expected for several days. Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Arredondo continued in conference after Mr. Polk had gone to the cabinet.

Mr. Arredondon said his negotiations with Mr. Polk were proceeding favorably and formal announcement of the plan to be followed might be expected before the end of the week.

General Funston asked the war department today for $500,000 to construct temporary shelters for army horses and mules along the border, which are suffering from excessive heat in some sections and heavy rains in others. Shelters will be constructed by the national guardsmen and regular troops.

The Day in Congress

SENATE.

Resumed debate on construction section of naval appropriation bill.

Commerce committee ordered favorable reported shipping.

Adopted conference report on postoffice appropriation bill.

Sent Philippine bill to conference.

Approved increased naval building plan.

Adjourned at 8:27 p. m. to 10 a. m. Wednesday.

HOUSE.

Considered conference report on postoffice appropriation bill.

Passed bill appropriating $850,000 for additional surgeons in the public health service and $85,000 for federal cooperation with state and municipal authorities in fight infantile paralysis.

Adopted senate resolution requesting president to designate a day for Americans to contribute to Armenian relief funds.

Adopted report on postoffice appropriation bill.

Adjourned at 4:59 p. m. to noon Friday.

THE WEATHER

THE WEATHER FORECAST.

Denver, Colo., July 18.—New Mexico: Wednesday and Thursday local thunder showers; cooler north and east portions Wednesday.

LOCAL WEATHER REPORT.

For twenty-four hours ending at 6 p. m. yesterday:

Maximum temperature, 92 degrees, minimum, 60; range, 32; temperature at 6 p. m., 81; southwest wind; clear.

CITY BANK CLEARINGS.

For the Day:
$63,756.89.

DEATH TOLL OF FLOOD IN SOUTH NOW TOTALS 32

Damage to Property Confined Principally to Railroads, Crops and Industrial Plants; Waters Receding.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

Atlanta, Ga., July 18.—Seventeen deaths reported today brought the southeastern flood toll to thirty-two but all rivers are falling and something like normal conditions obtain in many of the sections over-run with the high waters from the eastern mountains Sunday. Ten persons still are missing and the property damage is estimated at $15,000,000, principally to railroads, crops and industrial plants.

Eight of the deaths reported today occurred at Bat Cove, a village in Henderson county, North Carolina, on the Rocky Broad river, and two at Volga, a small town in Buncombe county. Four were reported today from Brevard, N. C., and three from the Hickory Nut gap section in the western part of the state. In addition, unverified reports said three boys were drowned below Marshall, N. C., in the overturning of a boat.

Marked improvement is shown in conditions in North Carolina. The French Broad river, in the Asheville region, is falling rapidly.

Railroads Repairing Damage.

The Catawba river is receding almost as fast as it rose two days ago, when the water, rushing down from the watersheds carried bridges, factories and homes before it. Railroads and other utilities companies are using large construction gangs repairing damage in the Catawba valley.

Several weeks will be required, it is said, to restore normal train service on some of the railroads and hundreds of thousands of cotton spindles may be idle for a month.

All fear of serious floods in South Carolina have been dispelled by the rapid fall of the Congaree and Broad rivers. The greatest loss will be to crops and livestock in the Congaree valley.

The rivers of east Tennessee have reached their crests and are falling slowly. The greatest loss will be to crops, several hundred thousand of acres having been flooded in the valleys in the extreme eastern part of the state.

Conditions in Virginia and West Virginia are expected to be normal within a day or two.

ENTIRE VILLAGE IS REPORTED WASHED AWAY

Spartanburg, S. C., July 18.—According to information brought here tonight by H. A. Marlette, who went to Thermal City, N. C., yesterday in an automobile, the village of Chimney Rock, N. C., near the famous rock of that name in Rutherford county, was completely washed away in the high waters of Broad river. The population of the town was about 150.

According to Marlette a party went to Chimney Rock to try to rescue those caught by a flood, but waters surrounding the village prevented them from getting close to the houses. They saw no signs of human life, it was said. The postoffice and hotel were washed to a point several miles below the village.

RECEDING WATERS GIVE UP SEVEN DEAD BODIES

Asheville, N. C., July 18.—Receding waters of the disastrous floods which swept through the French Broad valley Sunday gave up seven additional bodies today, and reports tonight of eight more deaths by drowning in the Balsam section brought the total death list in this district to twenty-eight. Indications were that the property loss in western North Carolina alone may be $12,000,000. Fears are felt that the loss of life and property may prove even greater with the rivers subside.

Relief work is being pushed forward rapidly, and most of the 1,200 men thrown out of employment by closing of twenty-five industrial plants are being put to work clearing away the flood wreckage.

FOUR KILLED BY RELIGION-CRAZED NEGRO; BATTLE RAGES 3 HOURS

Fanatic and Wife, Barricaded in House, Pour Deadly Fire on Neighbors and Chicago Police Force.

DYNAMITE USED TO BLOW UP BUILDING

Is Said to Have Believed Himself Commissioned to "Carry a Report to Almighty God."

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

Chicago, July 18.—Henry J. McIntyre, a crazed negro believing himself a prophet who must die to carry "a message to the Almighty," became violent here today and as the result of his frenzy there was a casualty of six dead and three injured. The negro and his wife were killed but only after more than a hundred police had besieged his residence for more than three hours and had been forced to resort to dynamite and fire to end the battle.

McIntyre had a congenial helpmate in his wife. He claimed divine authority and she believed in him. He didn't believe in work for himself. His wife adopted this view also and paid the rent and the grocery bill by taking in washing.

Wife Fought With Him.

Today when McIntyre strapped a belt of cartridges around himself and equipped himself with a pistol and a rifle, his spouse strapped on another belt and armed herself with a rifle. She fired the first shot at a neighbor on the other side of the fence; helped to barricade the house when the police came, and with her rifle helped to hold it for three and one half hours. In the end she died with him. She was riddled with bullets and the top of her head blown off. When Policeman Edward Hughes entered the house he found her dead, crumpled up in the wreckage on the floor. McIntyre, already wounded was gasping and leaning against an ice box. He turned and a policeman sent a bullet into his brain.

This shot terminated the most exciting episode on the west side in years. One policeman was dead and two others injured. Mrs. Josephine Overmeyer's body had been dragged from McIntyre's yard into her home and those of Edward Knox and Alfred Matthews, negroes, living in nearby houses, lay on their respective front porches where McIntyre's accurate pistol practice had taken their lives. Knox's wife Sadie, was in a hospital with a bullet in her back, and the two wounded policemen were having arm and leg wounds dressed. Passenger trains, stalled for hours on nearby tracks out of respect to flying bullets, resumed running, and the crowd of thousands attracted by the hundreds of shots and the dynamiting of the building, was dispersed.

Regarded As Queer.

McIntyre, a stocky negro, very black, had been regarded as queer for years. In 1912 Judge Charles S. Cutting, sitting in the probate court, was warned that a negro for some unknown reason, had designs on his life. When the former appeared bailiffs pounced on him and took a large knife away from him. He denied any wrong intentions and was permitted to go free. He bore a grudge, frequently expressed against the police and when threatened from time to time by offended neighbors with arrest, was said to have answered that he would never be taken alive.

Sometime during the heat of the July night McIntyre's mania became acute. He wrote two letters—one on a sheet of brown wrapping paper, and on a piece of yellow window shade. There were ill spelled and rambling but they made it plain that the negro considered himself a prophet—a Messiah, and that he had to die in order to take his report to the Almighty.

Three written, the husband and wife armed themselves. Mrs. McIntyre fired on Mrs. William Blanchard a negress, who was feeding her chickens in an adjoining back yard. This was the beginning. McIntyre, armed with an automatic pistol, appeared on the back porch. Mrs. Overmeyer came on the scene looking for her husband who had been attracted by the shots. McIntyre took careful aim and she fell dead. He then went to the front of the house where Knox and his wife and Matthews had appeared on their respective porches. The same true aim crumpled up the two men, and gave Mrs. Knox her wound.

Policeman Stuart Dean and others responded to an alarm and force into the house. McIntyre, crouching behind the bath, killed Dean with his first shot and wounded Patrolmen Edward Clement and Grover Crabtree. Their companions dragged them from the house and reinforcements with rifles were sent for.

The latter fired hundreds of shots into the house, through front and rear windows and these were returned by the couple inside. The latter, however, were unable to aim because of the attacking fire, and shot at random.

Fearing to risk the lives of his men further, Captain Wesley Westbrook ordered the house dynamited and three charges were exploded under it. After this there was a lull. Policeman Hughes, against the protests of his comrades, finally decided to investigate and entered, ending the battle.

Philippine Bill in Conference.

Washington, July 18.—The senate today sent the Philippine self-government bill to conference. Leaders had hoped the senate would agree to the house amendment striking out the Clarke provision for Philippine independence in four years, but some republican senators threatened a long fight on that plan and the democrats agreed to a conference to save time.

CAPTURE OF BIG GUNS PLEASING TO CRITICS IN GREAT BRITAIN

Announcement by General Haig That His Forces Have Taken Heavy Armament From Germans Important.

BAD WEATHER FORCES LULL IN HOSTILITIES

Attacks Have Been Pressed With Such Vigor That Germans Have Not Had Time to Reorganize Their Forces.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

London, July 18, 10 p. m.—While the adverse weather is compelling a lull in the fighting on the western front, military critics are taking stock of the situation. They are agreeably surprised by the large capture of heavy armament that General Sir Douglas Haig, the British commander in chief, announced.

The critics point out how the British attacks have been pressed with the greatest rapidity in order to give the Germans no time to organize formidable defenses. Also, as was evidenced by the withdrawal of the British from the Foureaux wood, where they had reached the German third line, General Haig wisely resisted the temptation to hold on to that point. It would have incurred severe fighting with probably heavy losses, and General Haig was in favor of a more methodical advance.

Second Line Is Weak.

Evidence received from the front, as well as the official map published here, seems to prove that the German second line of defenses was far less strong and elaborate than the first. Therefore, the military observers believe that the obstacles are likely to be less difficult as the entente allies advance. With regard to the eastern front, General von Linsingen's retirement across the Lipa is considered by the critics as removing the last serious obstacle to the advance of the Russians toward Lemberg.

There was little fresh news from either front today. General Haig was able to report substantial progress north of Ovillers while the Germans utilize the lull in making an attempt to regain lost ground at Hiaches and La Maisonnette. Fighting in this region continues.

Reports from Rome say that the retirement of the Teutonic allies on the Lipa has caused a panic in Galicia, where towns are being evacuated.

BRITISH FOLLOW METHODICAL PLAN AGAINST GERMANS

General Sir Douglas Haig's Men Feel Their Way Systematically in Progress Through Wooded Country.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

British Front in France, July 18 (6 p. m., via London, 10 a. m.)—On that map of variegated patches at headquarters which shows at a glance each day's progress of the offensive, there is none for today's work, to the hour of writing, so far as known, north of Ovillers and west of Pozieres.

The British apparently are following the same methods after the second big attack as after the first, fortifying the positions gained, stalking German machine gun detachments, taking needful tactical points and feeling their way systematically while their concentrations of gunfire give no sign where the next infantry forward act.

"Shell" gun a gunner, remembering the days of sanguinous starvation. It's no longer a case of asking for more, but of somebody in the rear asking over the telephone if we have enough.

It cleared over yesterday's battle which did not interrupt the shelling or the taking yesterday of 1,500 yards of a second line trench west of Pozieres, which has been the center of interest for the last twenty-four hours. The village sits on a high and commanding position, and the British now have established themselves on either side of its ruins, into which they continue to pour a big volume of shell fire.

The Germans were seen being for the first time in this action a poisonous shell, which does not explode but emits an asphyxiating gas. At first sight it may be mistaken for what is known as a "duud," an army term for a shell that has failed to detonate.

BIG POSTAL SURPLUS SAID TO BE IN SIGHT

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

Washington, July 18.—Third Assistant Postmaster General Dockery told the convention of postmasters here today the postal surplus this year would be the largest in history. He said growth of the postal savings system was phenomenal.

"When the present administration took charge," he said, "deposits were about $30,000,000, now they are $86,000,000, and by July 1, next, I predict they will be $150,000,000.

WILSON INSISTS ON CHILD LABOR LEGISLATION AT THIS SESSION

Makes Personal Visit to Capitol and Confers With Leaders Regarding Program to Be Carried Out.

SOUTHERN SENATORS OPPOSED TO MEASURE

Mild Sensation Created When Chief Executive Arrives Unheralded and Summons Kern and Marshall.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

Washington, July 18.—President Wilson made a personal visit to the capitol today to emphasize his desire that a child labor law be put on the statute books at the present session of congress. To senate leaders, whom he summoned to a series of conferences in the president's room adjoining the senate chamber, he insisted that the child labor bill passed by the house should be made a part of the legislative program to be put through the senate before adjournment.

Determined opposition by southern senators forced the house bill, which would prevent shipment in interstate commerce of goods manufactured wholly, or in part, by children out of the imperative program drawn up by the democratic caucus last Saturday. It was left in a secondary position, to be considered only if time remained after other measures regarded as more urgent, had been disposed of. Mr. Wilson had been told that an effort to force its passage would mean a serious party revolt.

Result Not Apparent.

Whether the president's visit accomplished anything more than to bring his own position in the matter emphatically to the front, was not apparent tonight. So far as could be learned the democratic steering committee contemplated no change in the caucus program, and no call had been issued for another caucus to consider Mr. Wilson's request.

The president's arrival at the capitol was entirely unheralded. Accompanied only by two secret service men, he went directly to the president's room and sent for Senator Kern, the majority leader. Later he discussed the subject with Vice President Marshall, Senators Martin, Williams, James and Owen of the democratic steering committee, and Senators Simmons and Hughes. Senators Martin, Williams and Simmons are among those inclined to favor postponement of action on the child labor bill until next December.

Senators Reticent.

Those who saw the president were reticent about the conference. Senator Kern said that the discussion was nothing to get excited about, and so far as he knew the president's visit would not necessitate any delay in the contemplated adjournment of contemplated adjournment of congress. Some senators who favor early action on the bill said they believed there should be another caucus. Others betrayed some resentment at the president's request, pointing out that the senate already had compromised with the White House on the legislative program, the caucus last week agreeing to delay action on the immigration bill, which Mr. Wilson opposes, but which has the support of a majority of the democratic senators.

Mr. Wilson is said to have called attention today to the fact that the democratic, republican and progressive party platforms all contained planks favoring immediate enactment of child labor legislation. His insistence is said to have been based not only on the merits of the bill but also on his belief that its passage is a matter of political expediency in view of the declaration of the democratic platform.

The president also is anxious that the house bill providing a system of workmen's compensation for federal employees be put through at this session, and it is understood that it was discussed at the conference today. Senate leaders are said to have assured him that it was one of the measures they expected to reach before adjournment.

ASQUITH CRITICIZES BAGDAD CAMPAIGN

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

London, July 18 (7:20 p. m.).—Premier Asquith intimated in the house of commons today that there was some basis for severe criticism of the conduct of the ninth expedition in Mesopotamia. After the battle of Ctesiphon last November, he said, Gen. Sir John Nixon, who was then in command telegraphed that the medical arrangements were satisfactory.

"Thousands died," one of the members called.

Mr. Asquith continued unofficial reports seemed to point to a very different state of affairs, and a commission was appointed to investigate the whole matter.

In the Mesopotamian operations, the premier declared, mistakes had occurred which had aroused doubt whether the best means had been adopted to bring about the ends in view.

The premier's remarks were brought out by demands for publication of the papers in regard to the Mesopotamian Dardanelles expedition.

Mr. Asquith said the papers could not be published without assisting Great Britain's enemies and prejudicing the operations now in progress in Mesopotamia.

Sir Edward Carson, speaking of the Mesopotamian expeditions, said that thousands of people in this country thought it had been conducted with criminal negligence.

TIDE OF TRAVEL AT LAREDO HAS CHANGED

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

Laredo, Tex., July 18.—The tide of travel across the international bridge here again has turned southward and for every American refugee reaching the border from interior Mexico, three are entering into Mexico to re-engage in pursuits hastily abandoned recently when war appeared imminent, according to immigration office records here.

A Mexican usually well informed, stated tonight 25,000 Carranza soldiers are stationed close to the border between Piedras and Negras and Matamoros. These men, he stated, are suffering from lack of corn and are raiding Mexican ranches to provide cattle for the de facto army.

Apparently reliable information received in Nuevo Laredo tonight stated that Luis Dee La Rosa, Mexican bandit, is recruiting in Monterey. So far as known, it was stated, no plans were afoot for immediate raids into American territory.

BATTLE YARN BRANDED AS FAKE BY FUNSTON

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

San Antonio, Tex., July 18.—Official cognizance was taken today by General Funston of the reporting last Friday of a "battle" here by Chicago newspaper men. The accounts agreed that the camp of the First Illinois had been subjected to a smart fire for some hours by some snipers. The investigation conducted today developed that all the shots of which there was any knowledge, came from the twenty-two caliber rifle of a soldier who was hunting doves in the brush near the camp.

General Funston characterized the story as a fake and intimated that it might be necessary to bar its authors from the military reservation.

WOMAN SUICIDES; FIANCEE SHOOTS HER BETRAYER

Boston Osteopath, Learning of Sweetheart's Death, Attempts Life of Man Who Formerly Taught Both.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

Boston, July 18.—Two hours after his sweetheart, Dr. Celia Adams of Brookline, had died from an overdose of a drug, Dr. Eldridge D. Atwood of Woburn, today shot and probably mortally wounded Dr. Wilfred E. Harris, president of the Massachusetts College of Osteopathy at the latter's office in the Westminster hotel in the Back Bay district. Dr. Atwood disappeared after the shooting, was later arrested after a brief struggle at the office of his fiancee.

The police say he admitted that he had shot Dr. Harris because Miss Adams had told him that their marriage could not take place as Dr. Harris had wronged her. An empty five-chambered revolver and a razor which, the police say, Dr. Atwood admitted he intended to use on his victim, were taken from the prisoner. He was booked up on a charge of assault and battery with intent to murder.

May Not Recover.

At the city hospital late tonight Dr. Harris was unconscious. His condition was reported critical.

Both Dr. Atwood and his fiance studied osteopathy under Dr. Harris when he was an instructor at the Massachusetts college. The friendship which began between the students in the class room six years ago ripened into love. Atwood told the police tonight they had planned to be married soon, although much opposition had developed on the part of the girl's parents and also from Dr. Harris. The girl's parents objected because Miss Adams was 27 years of age, while Dr. Atwood is only 23. Dr. Harris is 43 years old.

It is believed that after Miss Adams left Dr. Atwood yesterday she went to her office at Coolidge Corner, Brookline. Early today her father, Francis P. Adams, found the door locked. When it was finally opened he discovered his daughter unconscious on the floor. She was removed to the Commonwealth hospital and treated for an overdose of narcotic drug.

No Eye-Witnesses.

Dr. Atwood hastened to the hospital but the young woman was unconscious and shortly afterward died. He then went to the Hotel Westminster, where Dr. Harris occupied an upstairs suite. No one saw the actual shooting.

After Dr. Atwood fled, Dr. Harris was collapsed, and directed his office assistant in the work of rendering first aid. When asked who shot him he named Dr. Atwood.

This evening Dr. Atwood called on his fiance's brother, Winthrop, and made an appointment to meet him at Dr. Adams' office. A policeman then arrested the young physician after a struggle. He was taken to the hospital where Dr. Harris identified Dr. Atwood as his assailant.

WON'T WORKERS FAIL TO INTIMIDATE TOWN

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

Mitchell, S. D., July 18.—A section of police whip drawn exercises upon "reds" at Gregory as alleged I. W. W.'s assembling several hundred here this morning. The men came to the town from Sioux City, he is reported. Their leaders said in an appeal sent out by five members of the organization, who were thrown in jail here yesterday on charges of vagrancy.

A parley was arranged with the men after the show of weapons had checked their rush. They were allowed to get breakfast here but were made to continue on northward, where they promised to go to work in the harvest fields.

Want Troops for Strike Duty.

Springfield, Ill., July 18.—Sheriff McClintic of Harding county today sent a telegram to Governor Dunn, asking that state troops be sent to Roseclare to stop violence among striking lead miners. Rioting had taken place, the sheriff said, and three citizens had been shot and seriously wounded.

MEXICANS FIRE ON U. S. TROOPS ON PATROL DUTY BELOW EL PASO

Unprovoked Assault Is Made on Members of Massachusetts National Guard Doing Guard Service.

UNDERBRUSH USED AS SCREEN FOR ATTACK

Americans Quickly Return Fire and Their Assailants Are Driven in Flight Over Hills in the Distance.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

El Paso, Tex., July 18.—A party of mounted Mexicans exchanged fire with I, company of the Ninth Massachusetts infantry near here, late today. According to reports, the guardsmen were doing outpost duty when the Mexicans rode up on the opposite bank of the Rio Grande and opened fire. The guardsmen suffered no casualties, but reported they believed they had killed one Mexican.

Captain Hickey, of Dorchester, Mass., commanding the company, estimated the number of Mexicans at fifteen, but asserted that he was unable to determine whether or not they were soldiers. Approximately fifty shots were fired on each side, it was said.

Both Gen. George Bell, Jr., commanding the El Paso military district, and Lieut. Col. Leon Buelon, acting garrison commander in Juarez, denied that they had received official reports of the incident and both said that it seemed trivial.

The shooting occurred in an isolated district, about three miles down the river from El Paso, known locally as "the island" section. The Massachusetts company was doing border patrol duty in this district, one-third of the sixty men being on patrol and the remainder being held in reserve in the camp, about half a mile to the rear.

In Skirmish Formation.

Captain Hickey said that throughout the day small parties of Mexicans appeared from time to time on the Mexican bank of the river, which is about 300 yards wide at that point. Then, he said, a mounted detachment appeared, most of the horsemen wearing red serapes.

The Mexicans rode up to the river bank, dismounted and deployed as skirmishers, creeping through the underbrush which dotted the river's edge. One of the Mexicans fired his rifle, the bullet crossing the river, and according to Private Charles Prescott, of Natick, Mass., dropping at his feet.

Mexicans Driven Back.

Screening themselves as much as possible by little clumps of mesquite, the Americans returned the fire and in the time the reserves reached the river to reinforce them, they had driven the Mexicans back to their horses. Before reaching the picket line, however, the militia men assert, one of the Mexicans stumbled and fell into a clump of greasewood and did not arise.

The exchange of fire continued less than ten minutes and when about fifty shots had been fired on each side, according to the company officers, the Mexicans, riding south, disappeared behind a hillock.

Bell Makes No Comment.

Later, upon receipt of Capt. James F. Hickey's report, General Bell declined to comment on the shooting other than to say that such incidents "are bound to happen." He added that smugglers had been operating along the river in the Island district and that it was in attempt to prevent this that he had detailed the Massachusetts company.

Captain Hickey's report pointed out that the firing had been begun by a party of three Mexicans who came to the river bank afoot and who, when the guardsmen returned their fire, were reinforced by a dozen horsemen.

Usual Rumors in El Paso.

The shooting gave birth to wild rumors in El Paso. One story was that the Mexicans composed a small band of fugitive Villistas, this being given support by several of the militiamen, who asserted that under their serapes the Mexicans were khaki and that their horses had red saddle blankets similar to those with which some of the Villistas are known to be equipped.

Last night a Mexican near the scene of today's shooting shot across the border at Sergeant Frank O'Neil of D company of the Ninth. O'Neil, an expert rifleman, drew a bead, when suddenly a child ran up to the Mexican. As a result O'Neil did not shoot and the Mexican escaped.

AKED DESPAIRS OF PEACE BEFORE SPRING

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

New York, July 18.—The Rev. Charles F. Aked, of San Francisco, and Allan Ludy Balch, of Wellesley college, American delegates to the neutral conference for continuous mediation, which is the outgrowth of Henry Ford's peace expedition and has been sitting in Stockholm, reached New York today aboard the liner Frederick VIII on their way to consult with Mr. Ford regarding further work for peace.

Dr. Aked asserted that he was bitterly opposed to the congress' recently announced plan of peace, which he said the British minister at Stockholm called even more favorable to the entente allies than the program they themselves would have drawn up. He said he would not return to Europe unless Mr. Ford agreed with him in a much greater concentration of authority and a complete change of policy. He declared that from now on the negotiations must be "informal, intimate and private rather than so offensively public."